

In the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph at page 8, lines 11-25 as follows:

The communication system 100 allocates transmission rates to the multiple users (*a.k.a.*, “user terminals”) 110 to provide the users with proper data-transmission rates in a manner that is fair to the users. The terminal 130, using its own programmed CPU 132 (a CPU is well recognized as being clock-based) and/or the CPU intelligence of the system’s central station/switch 140, dictates the transmission rates of the users 110, 112 to provide at least a minimum user transmission rate (R_{min}) for an expected minimum quality of communication. As shown, the CPU 132 typically includes logic and memory for manipulating (*e.g.*, storing, changing and accessing) recorded power vectors (132a), for manipulating a degree of *unfairness* (U) in rate allocation (132b), and for manipulating a shared-resource criteria (132c). Transmission-rate instructions are typically provided over the channel 120 or over an optional background data link 160. In combination therewith or as an alternative, each of the users 110, 112 is programmed to store the minimum user transmission rate (R_{min}) as a (default) operational mode. The expected minimum quality of communication is typically specification-defined for a given system and/or is variable for an anticipated system operating environment (*e.g.*, fewer than N users or more than M users).

Please amend Equation 5 on page 10 as follows:

$$R_i \geq [[\leq]] R_{min}$$